

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 FDRE-00

SCA-01 H-02 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W

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R 230810Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9642

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 5394

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, VS

SUBJ: JAPAN HOPES THIEU'S RESIGNATION WILL LEAD TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: TOKYO 5288

SUMMARY: DEVELOPMENTS IN SVN ENGENDERED RASH OF EDITORIALS
APRIL 22 EXPRESSING HOPE THAT THIEU'S RESIGNATION WOULD LEAD TO
PEACE TALKS. CHARGING THAT US DUMPED THIEU BECAUSE OF MILITARY
ROUT, SEVERAL EDITORIALS SAW LESSON OF INDOCHINA TO BE THAT
RELIANCE SOLELY ON US AID WAS DANGEROUS. GOJ HAS STILL NOT
COMMENTED OFFICIALLY ON THIEU'S FALL BUT FONMIN MIYAZAWA REPORTEDLY
TOLD CABINET HE DID NOT EXPECT EARLY GVN-PRG TALKS BECAUSE
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PRG IS MAKING NEW DEMANDS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRES THIEU'S RESIGNATION AND INDOCHINESE DEVELOPMENTS
CONTINUE TO DOMINATE JAPAN'S MEDIA. EDITORIALS IN ALL MAJOR

DAILIES AND TV COVERAGE STRESSED HOPE THAT PRES THIEU'S RESIGNATION WOULD LEAD TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS TO END WAR. SEVERAL PAPERS SAW THIEU'S FALL AS EVIDENCE THAT HE WAS A US CLIENT FORCED TO RESIGN UNDER US PRESSURE AFTER MILITARY ROUT AND LOSS OF POLITICAL SUPPORT. TYPICALLY, TOKYO SHIMBUN SAID THIEU HAD TO RESIGN BECAUSE US TURNED ITS BACK ON HIM.

2. EDITORIALS FREQUENTLY TREATED US HARSHLY. AFTER ADVOCATING THAT JAPAN CONTACT PRG TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT, MAINICHI COMMENTED THAT "WAR IN INDOCHINA MADE CLEAR THAT NO BIG COUNTRY CAN RESIST NATIONALISTIC FORCES IN OTHER COUNTRIES" AND ASSERTED THAT "MILITARY AND POLITICAL INTERVENTION BY US IN INDOCHINA LEFT INDELIBLE STAIN ON HISTORY OF US". ASAHI PREDICTED "DOMINATION OF LIBERATION FORCES IN ALL OF INDOCHINA WILL EXERT PROFOUND INFLUENCE OVER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA". IN CONCLUSION, ASAHI SAID "PRESENT SITUATION IN SVN HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT IS DANGEROUS FOR ANY NATION TO RELY SOLELY ON US AID AND THAT NATIONAL UNITY IN THE DEMOCRATIC SENSE OF THE WORD IS NECESSARY FOR POLITICAL STABILITY". SIMILARLY, CONSERVATIVE SANKEI SAID, "NOT ONLY SVN BUT ALL ALLIES OF US, INCLUDING JAPAN, SHOULD REFLECT UPON FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRES THIEU HAS BEEN RELYING SOLELY ON US AID". IN ANOTHER VEIN, YOMIURI SAID SVN HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT RIGID TERMS DICTATED BY PRG".

3. GOJ HAS STILL NOT COMMENTED OFFICIALLY ON THIEU'S DOWNFALL BUT FONMIN MIYAZAWA REPORTEDLY TOLD CABINET APRIL 22 THAT HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE EARLY TALKS BETWEEN NEW GVN AND PRG. AS BASIS FOR COMMENT, MIYAZAWA REPORTEDLY CITED DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN PARIS STATING THAT THIEU'S RESIGNATION WAS NOT ENOUGH, THAT ALL LEADING MINISTERS AND SUPPORTERS OF GVN MUST QUIT AND ALL AMERICANS MUST BE EVACUATED BEFORE TALKS COULD BEGIN. FONMIN INFORMED PRESS THERE WERE 211 JAPANESE, INCLUDING 18 IN EMBASSY IN SAIGON. OF THESE,
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80 ARE MARRIED TO VIETNAMESE.
HODGSON

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SINGAPORE
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